

A PROCLAMATION HONORING EMMY HENSEL FOR WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, Whereas, Emmy Hensel showed hard work and dedication to the sport of softball; and Whereas, Emmy Hensel was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Emmy Hensel always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Emmy Hensel on winning the Girls' Division IV State Softball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 softball season.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO PORTUGAL FOR ACCEPTING TWO DETAINEES RELEASED FROM GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce a resolution expressing appreciation to the nation of Portugal for accepting two detainees from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. These two Syrian men had been cleared by the federal government for release but were unable to be sent to their home country, in compliance with international human rights law.

The United States has been working with other countries to effect a safe and efficient process for resettling detainees cleared of wrongdoing and scheduled for release. This is a complicated and difficult process but has resulted in approximately 15 resettled detainees since President Obama took office. Two of those went to Portugal. Dozens more have been cleared for release but have not yet been transferred to a third-party nation.

In December 2008, Portuguese Foreign Minister Luis Amado announced in a public letter to European officials that Portugal was ready to assist the United States in resettling released detainees. In doing so, Portugal became the first nation to publicly state its willingness to take Guantanamo detainees who were not its own nationals. In August 2009, Portugal accepted the two Syrian released detainees and provided homes for them to live freely.

Madam Speaker, I appreciate Portugal—our friend and ally—assisting us in the effort to resolve the complex problem of resettling detainees cleared for release. The fact of the matter is that the Bush administration's reckless approach to establishing an extrajudicial system at Guantanamo has left us grappling with how to humanely and effectively resettle detainees who pose no threat to our national security. To

that end we owe the people of Portugal sincere thanks for taking on the responsibility of ensuring the rights and well-being of these two resettled detainees, who have been cleared of any wrongdoing. Portugal and the United States have set a positive example for the safe, efficient, and humane process of resettling former detainees.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING CARLY CLARK FOR WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, Whereas, Carly Clark showed hard work and dedication to the sport of softball; and Whereas, Carly Clark was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Carly Clark always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Carly Clark on winning the Girls' Division IV State Softball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 softball season.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, during the vote on the motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 2918, Fiscal Year 2010 Legislative Branch Appropriations, (Rollcall 734), I mistakenly voted "yea" but I meant to vote "nay."

A PROCLAMATION HONORING KRISTEN SMITH FOR WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP.

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, Whereas, Kristen Smith showed hard work and dedication to the sport of softball; and Whereas, Kristen Smith was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Kristen Smith always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Kristen Smith on winning the Girls' Division IV State Softball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 softball season.

HONORING SFC SHAWN PATRICK MCCLOSKEY

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fallen American patriot.

Thousands of my constituents in Georgia's 3rd Congressional District lined the streets of Peachtree City, GA, this week, waving American flags, to honor the late SFC Shawn Patrick McCloskey. The sergeant, returning home to his final resting place, died while serving in the U.S. Army in Afghanistan.

Sergeant McCloskey, 33, suffered fatal injuries after he was hit by a roadside bomb Sept. 15 while on patrol in Ghur Ghuri. SFC Bradley Bohle of Maryland and SSG Joshua Mills of Texas also died in the attack.

Before joining the service, Sergeant McCloskey worked for a construction company in Fayette County. Like many of his fellow soldiers, he was a regular American, going to work every day and providing for his family when he decided to join the military in 2002. At a time of great anguish for our Nation, he heard the call to duty and he answered it.

After Special Forces training, Sergeant McCloskey became a Green Beret and performed intelligence work in Colombia. When he died, he was serving his third tour in the Global War on Terror. His meritorious service won him many medals and awards, including the Bronze Star, Purple Heart and the National Defense Service Medal.

Our Nation mourns the loss of each soldier sacrificed on the battlefield. But there is no tribute we can give that eases the pain of the Gold Star families. Sergeant McCloskey is survived by his wife Jessica and two children, Katie and Collin, and also his parents Patrick and Kathryn McCloskey of Fayetteville.

Today, we remember and grieve this great American hero, SFC Shawn McCloskey. He died so that we, his fellow Americans, could continue to live in freedom.

We thank the McCloskey family for their gift to us. May God bless them during their hour of greatest need.

TRIBUTE TO THE MARLBOROUGH REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (MRCC)

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Marlborough Regional Chamber of Commerce, MRCC, for their devotion to their community for 85 years. The MRCC is a not-for-profit organization that provides resources for businesses to help them develop and grow. Their continuing efforts have helped make Marlborough a better place to live, work and raise a family.

The MRCC has continued to reach their goal of creating a better community with their strong leadership and dedication to the town. Throughout the years, the MRCC has presented gifts for the town, awarded scholarships for graduating high school seniors, and